

## Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 OES-07 DLOS-09 CIAE-00  
INR-07 NSAE-00 COME-00 SS-15 NSCE-00 INRE-00  
SSO-00 /059 R

DRAFTED BY PM/ISO:JEBURGESS:ML  
APPROVED BY EUR:REBARBOUR  
EUR/SE - NLEDSKY  
L/OES - DCOLSON (DRAFT)  
L/EUR - JCROOK (DRAFT)  
OSD/ISA - MR. SIENNA (DRAFT)  
-----098008 240107Z /72

O P 232323Z NOV 77 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS NIACT IMMEDIATE  
INFO SECDEF PRIORITY  
CNO PRIORITY  
USCINCEUR PRIORITY  
OCEANAV PRIORITY  
COMSC PRIORITY  
COMSCLANT PRIORITY  
COMSCMED PRIORITY  
USDOCOSOUTH PRIORITY  
JCS PRIORITY  
CINCUSNAVEUR PRIORITY  
NAVOCEANO PRIORITY  
NAVOCEANO BAY ST LOUIS, MS PRIORITY  
NORDA PRIORITY  
COMSIXTHFLT PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS:PINT, TPHY, GR, US

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SUBJECT: OPERATIONS OF USNS BARTLETT

REF: A. ATHENS 10619 B. STATE 279089

1. INFORMATION IN THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS IS DESIGNED TO  
PROVIDE BACKGROUND REQUESTED IN REF A IN SUPPORT OF YOUR  
FORTHCOMING PRESENTATION TO THE GOVERNMENT OF GREECE. THIS

IS TO CONFIRM THAT COMMUNICATION PROVIDED REF B SHOULD BE DELIVERED, AS ORIGINALLY TRANSMITTED, TO THE GOVERNMENT OF GREECE THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND NOT TO THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE.

2. THE FOLLOWING IS THE DEPARTMENT'S LEGAL POSITION WITH RESPECT TO QUESTIONS INVOLVING CONTINENTAL SHELF RESEARCH IN CONNECTION WITH THE SAILING OF THE USNS BARTLETT.

A. EMBASSY SHOULD BE AWARE THAT US AND GREECE HAVE DIFFERENT VIEWS CONCERNING WHAT CONSTITUTES CONTINENTAL SHELF JURISDICTION OR WHAT SORT OF CONTINENTAL SHELF RESEARCH REQUIRES COASTAL STATE CONSENT. GREEKS HAVE PREVIOUSLY TAKEN POSITION THAT WORK NOT ACTUALLY INVOLVING PHYSICAL CONTACT WITH THE SHELF SUCH AS MAGNETOMETER OR SEISMIC WORK IS

CONTINENTAL SHELF RESEARCH. THE UNITED STATES INTERPRETS THE CONTINENTAL SHELF CONVENTION TO REQUIRE COASTAL STATE CONSENT ONLY WHEN THE RESEARCH CONCERNS THE CONTINENTAL SHELF AND IS UNDERTAKEN THERE. THUS, IN USG VIEW MAGNETOMETER OR SEISMIC WORK IS NOT CONTINENTAL SHELF RESEARCH SINCE IT IS NOT RESEARCH WHICH IS CONDUCTED ON THE SHELF.

B. USG WOULD VIEW CORING AS CONTINENTAL SHELF RESEARCH ;F IT IS CONDUCTED WITHIN AN AREA SUBJECT TO COASTAL STATE CONTINENTAL SHELF JURISDICTION. CONTINENTAL SHELF CONVEN-  
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TION DEFINES THIS AREA AS 200 METERS OR THE DEPTH OF EXPLOITABILITY. THE DEPTH OF EXPLOITABILITY CRITERION IS VAGUE AND WAS INSERTED IN THE CONVENTION IN ORDER TO PROVIDE AN AMBIGUOUS REFERENCE. CORING OPERATIONS OF THE BARTLETT WILL NOT TAKE PLACE IN DEPTHS LESS THAN 2000 METERS. USG DOES NOT KEEP A RUNNING CRITERION ON WHERE THE DEPTH OF EXPLOITABILITY IS FROM DAY TO DAY. HOWEVER, USG IS PREPARED TO ASSERT THAT DEPTHS OF 2000 METERS ARE NOT PRESENTLY EXPLOITED AND THEREFORE THESE AREAS ARE BEYOND THE CONTINENTAL SHELF.

C. IN USG VIEW THE BARTLETT'S RESEARCH DOES NOT REQUIRE COASTAL STATE CONSENT EVEN THOUGH GREECE PROBABLY VIEWS THE ENTIRE OPERATION AS ONE IN WHICH THEY ARE ENTITLED TO BE ASKED FOR CONSENT. HOWEVER, USG IS CONFIDENT THAT NOTE REF B PROTECTS USG LEGAL POSITION AND IS HOPEFUL THAT GREECE MIGHT INTERPRET THE NOTE AS CONSISTENT WITH ITS VIEWS. IN THIS REGARD, AND WITHOUT IN ANY WAY IMPLYING THAT WE SEEK GREEK CONSENT, EMBASSY SHOULD WHEN PRESENTING NOTE, CALL ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING:

(A) USG INVITES GREEK PARTICIPATION;

(B) USG HOPES TO OVERCOME GREEK CONCERNS NOTED IN AVEROFF MESSAGE;

(C) USG OFFERS TO SHARE RESEARCH DATA AND REPORTS FROM BARTLETT'S OPERATIONS.

3. THE NAVAL OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY (NORDA) IS A FIELD ACTIVITY OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL RESEARCH. IT IS A FUNCTIONAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (R AND D) ACTIVITY WHICH INCLUDES AN OCEANOGRAPHIC LABORATORY. AS A DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY ACTIVITY, THE RESULTS OF NORDA'S R AND D ARE USED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND, IN THE CASE OF BASIC RESEARCH, ARE AVAILABLE  
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TO THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY.

4. THE STUDY OF QUARTZ DISPERSAL IN EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN SEDIMENTS IS PART OF AN ONGOING, UNCLASSIFIED, BASIC RESEARCH PROGRAM SPONSORED BY THE CHIEF OF NAVAL RESEARCH. THE COMPOSITION OF QUARTZ SEDIMENTS ARE THOUGHT TO BE RELATED TO PREVIOUS CLIMATIC CONDITIONS, SUCH AS PREVIOUS ICE AGES. THE STUDY OF THESE SEDIMENTS IS DIRECTED TOWARDS CONFIRMING THIS RELATIONSHIP WHICH HAS BEEN OBSERVED ELSEWHERE. THE DATA COLLECTED WILL BE USED TO DETERMINE THE BEARING OF WIND BLOWN DEPOSITS ON PAST CLIMATIC AND OCEANOGRAPHIC REGIMES. THESE STUDIES, INCLUDING CORING, ARE PART OF AN OVERALL BASIC RESEARCH EFFORT TO UNDERSTAND THE PROCESS OF MARINE SEDIMENTATION WITH A LONG TERM GOAL OF PREDICTING OCEAN BASIN CONDITIONS.

5. THE PURPOSE OF THE CORING IS TO MEASURE THE AMOUNTS OF QUARTZ DEPOSITED AT VARIOUS LEVELS IN THE FIRST TWENTY METERS OF SEA FLOOR SEDIMENTS. THE CORING APPARATUS CAN PENETRATE TO A MAXIMUM DEPTH OF TWENTY METERS INTO THE SEA FLOOR.

6. BARTLETT IS SCHEDULED TO CONDUCT PLANNED EXPLORATIONS AS FOLLOWS: 20-25 NOV MID MED WORK AREA; 26-29 NOV KITHIRA WORK AREA. IF REQUIRED, RECOMMEND EMBARK GREEK SCIENTIST 26 NOV IN KALAMATA; REQUEST ARRANGE PORT CLEARANCE AS NECESSARY IF GOG ACCEPTS INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE.

7. FYI: WE HAVE TAKEN NOTE OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION TO DELETE THE PHRASE QUOTE WITHOUT REFERENCE TO NAVAL MEASURES UNQUOTE FROM THE LAST PARA OF THE NOTE, HOWEVER, WE CANNOT IGNORE THE FORMAL STATEMENT IN THE AVEROFF  
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MESSAGE TO THE CNO AND ARE OBLIGED TO REGISTER OUR DIS-  
PLEASURE WITH HIS UNFORTUNATE CHOICE OF WORDS. END FYI.  
CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** US POLICY ON TOXIC SUBSTANCES  
**TAGS:** SENV, PINT, TPHY, HU, GE, UR, CZ, BU, PL, GR, US  
**To:** BELGRADE BUCHAREST MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/4b863712-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
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